

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INRE-00

ERDE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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S E C R E T MOSCOW 10539

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: STOESSEL STATEMENT AT RESTRICTED
JULY 28, 1975 - TBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 81

1. FOLLOWING IS STOESSEL STATEMENT AT JULY 28 RESTRICTED MEETING:

BEGIN TEXT:

ON JULY 24 YOU PROVIDED US WITH THE CURRENT THINKING OF YOUR
GOVERNMENT ON MAJOR ELEMENTS TO FORM THE BASIS FOR AN AGREEMENT
ON UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

FOLLOWING YOUR STATEMENT I SAID THAT I PERSONALLY CONSIDERED IT A
CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPORTANT WORK WITH WHICH WE HAVE
BEEN CHARGED BY OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS. THE CONTENT OF YOUR STATE-
MENT WAS IMMEDIATELY REPORTED TO MY AUTHORITIES, BY WHOM IT IS
BEING GIVEN THE MOST CAREFUL ATTENTION.

THIS INITIATIVE OF THE SOVIET SIDE BRINGS OUR POSITIONS CLOSER
TOGETHER, AND ENCOURAGES US TO LOOK MORE CLOSELY AT THE REMAINING
QUESTIONS WHICH NEED TO BE RESOLVED.

THE TWO SIDES SEEM TO HAVE A COMMON VIEW OF TECHNICAL NEEDS FOR
ON-SITE YIELD VERIFICATION OF GROUP EXPLOSIONS, AND THE PHYSICAL
PRINCIPLES OF APPROPRIATE INSTRUMENTS. THERE IS A REMAINING

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DIFFERENCE ON IMPLEMENTATION; IN PARTICULAR, WHETHER VERIFICATION

SHOULD BE BASED ON EQUIPMENT OF THE HOST SIDE OR THE VERIFYING SIDE.

CONCERNING OBSERVER RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS IN GENERAL, IT IS THE FIRM VIEW OF THE US SIDE THAT ALL AGREED OBSERVER RIGHTS AND FUNCTIONS MUST BE EXERCISABLE AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE VERIFYING SIDE.

DR. IZRAEL PROVIDED AN EXPOSITION ON THE SOVIET ASSESSMENT OF THE RELATION OF THE LIMITED TEST BAN TREATY OF 1963 TO EXCAVATION EXPLOSIONS. THE MOST IMPORTANT CONCLUSION THAT WE DREW FROM DR. IZRAEL'S TECHNICAL DISCUSSION IS THAT IT IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO CONDUCT PNE EXCAVATION PROJECTS WITHOUT CAUSING RADIOACTIVE DEBRIS TO BE PRESENT OUTSIDE THE BORDERS OF THE COUNTRY IN WHICH THE EXPLOSION IS CARRIED OUT.

THIS CONCLUSION IS CONSISTENT WITH THE US VIEW THAT IT DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE POSSIBLE TO CARRY OUT LARGE-SCALE PNE EXCAVATION PROJECTS WITHOUT VIOLATING THE LIMITED TEST BAN TREATY OF 1963.

DR. IZRAEL'S VIEW STANDS IN CONTRAST TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE LTBT, WHICH CONTAIN NO QUALIFICATION.

ON THE MATTER OF YIELD LIMITS, BOTH INDIVIDUAL AND AGGREGATE, THE SOVIET PROPOSALS INVOLVE IMPORTANT STEPS WHICH SHOULD HELP US MOVE FORWARD.

AS HAS BEEN SAID SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE, THE US SIDE DOES NOT EXCLUDE COOPERATION IN THE PNE FIELD, BUT ESSENTIAL VERIFICATION PROVISIONS MUST BE AGREED UPON BEFORE COOPERATION IS TAKEN UP.

MR. MINISTER, MY AUTHORITIES CONSIDER THE SOVIET PROPOSALS TO BE A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN OUR NEGOTIATIONS, AND THE US SIDE APPRECIATES THIS IMPORTANT INITIATIVE.

IN ORDER FOR THE US SIDE TO PREPARE A DETAILED RESPONSE TO THE NEW SOVIET PROPOSALS, I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PROPOSE THAT WE NOW RECESS OUR DISCUSSIONS UNTIL EARLY SEPTEMBER. IT HAS BEEN JUDGED IMPORTANT THAT THE US DELEGATION RETURN TO WASHINGTON TO PARTICIPATE

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IN THIS WORKS THAT IT CAN PROCEED AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE.

IN ADDITION TO CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF YOUR PROPOSALS, THE UNITED STATES WILL COMPLETE PREPARATION OF DRAFT LANGUAGE OF A PNE AGREEMENT, AND WOULD EXPECT TO TABLE SUCH LANGUAGE IN SEPTEMBER WHEN OUR NEGOTIATIONS RESUME.

MR. MINISTER, LET ME, ON BEHALF OF THE US DELEGATION, EXPRESS

THANKS TO YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES FOR ALL THE COURTESIES AND
GENEROUS HOSPITALITY THAT HHAVE BEEN SO GRACIOUSLY PROVIDED TO
US. THIS IS EVEN MORE TRUE DURING THIS ROUND III OF OUR NEGOTIA-
TIONS, WHICH INCLUDED THE INTERESTING AND REWARDING JOURNEY TO
CENTRAL ASIA. END TEST.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW10539
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750259-1165
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750716/aaaaaofr.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: STOESSEL STATEMENT AT RESTRICTED JULY 28, 1975 - TTBT/PNE DELEGATIN MESSAGE NO. 81
TAGS: PARM, US, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006